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Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Letter dated 24 October 2002 from the Minister-Counsellor for Host Country Affairs of the United States Mission to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The attached circular note verbale (see annex), sent to all permanent missions and to the Secretariat, was prepared in response to a request made by a member of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country at its 213th meeting, on 15 October 2002.

I request that the note in question be made an official document of the Committee.

(*Signed*) Robert C. **Moller**
Minister-Counsellor
Host Country Affairs

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Annex to the letter dated 24 October 2002 from the Minister-Counsellor for Host Country Affairs of the United States Mission to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

United States Mission to the United Nations
New York

17 October 2002

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the permanent missions to the United Nations and to the United Nations Secretariat and has the honour to inform them of the following.

At the 213th meeting of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, on 15 October 2002, the United States delegation was asked to consult with representatives of the City of New York with regard to a possible delay in the implementation of the Diplomatic Parking Programme. Those consultations have now taken place. In this context it is important to note that the United Nations Legal Counsel found the Diplomatic Parking Programme to be consistent with the host country's obligations under international law. It is also important to note that the Programme was developed with all the various concerns expressed by the diplomatic community and the Committee's Working Group on Parking over the last five years clearly in mind. In this way, prior consultation with the United Nations diplomatic community and with the Committee was in fact achieved. Consequently, the Department of State and the City remain firm in their decision to implement the Programme as scheduled on 1 November 2002.

The United States Mission, the Office of Foreign Missions, and the City of New York are committed to the proper, fair and non-discriminatory implementation of the Programme as written beginning on 1 November. In this regard, the United States Mission repeats its request that permanent missions or their members should write to the United States Mission (or send an electronic message to unparking@state.gov) regarding any question or observation with regard to the implementation of the Programme after 1 November. Moreover, the United States Mission is prepared to review, at an appropriate future time, the Programme's implementation with interested delegations at a meeting of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

The United States Mission further requests those missions that have not yet forwarded service vehicle and delivery vehicle decal applications to the United States Mission to do so at the earliest opportunity to ensure that the decals are received before 1 November.